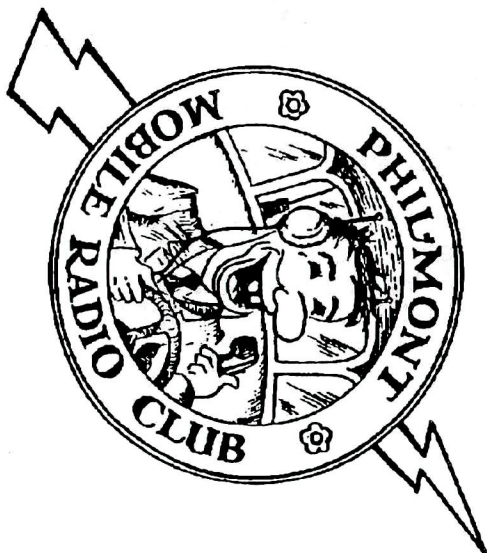


FIRST CLASS MAIL



A Publication of
THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE, FURLONG, PA 18925

THE BLURB



is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. BLURB subscriptions are available to non-members for \$10.00 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the first non-holiday WEDNESDAY of every month at The Franklin Institute, 20th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia. Use the Winter Street (north side) entrance.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - the first non-holiday THURSDAY
of every month at The Franklin Institute - doors close at 6:30 PM-SHARP!

CLUB INFORMATION

24-Hour Information Number at W3TKQ -(215) 448-1139
Repeater frequencies: 147.03 (Bucks County input requires 131.8Hz PL)
444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)
Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB
W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS
W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG
ALL LICENSED AMATEURS ARE WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: N3FVI, Bill Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Philadelphia, PA 19128 (215) 487-9472
VICE PRESIDENT: N3GLH, Brad Swanson, 517 Cresheim Valley Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19118 (215) 836-2473
SECRETARY: N2RM, Rob Moore, 9U Rose Rita Terrace, Hammonton, NJ 08037 (609) 561-4459
TREASURER: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095 (215) 572-5238

DIRECTORS

W3BBB (92); KC2HX (92); AK2I (91); W3IIM (A); K3KUD (91); W3RM (A); W3UY (A)

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Archives:	W3IIN	Membership:	W3IIN	Repeater:	W3BBB
BLURB:	W3IIM	Net Control:	KB3IV	Special Events:	N3FVI
Budget /Audit:	W3IIN	Program:	N3GLH	TVI	WA3AUN
Directory:	WB3KOJ	Publicity:	-----	VE Program:	ND3Q
DX:	WA3AUN	Refreshments:	N3FVI	W3TKQ:	W3PWG
Emerg. Coord.:	W3BBB			Welcome:	W3VVS

Special Liaison to The Franklin Institute: AK2I

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N3DHI, WB3KOJ

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DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy **MUST** be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting!

NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030	MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.993	MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET



APPLE BYTES

Don Gordon, WB3KOJ

MAY BIRTHDAYS

02 Claude Haring, Jr. - W3IIM
Gerald J. Zulewski - WB2VIE
05 Paul Policarpo - N3GMH
06 Mildred Stouth (XYL W3ZPP)
07 Richard Bechtel - W3CBF
08 William H. Wiand - N3WW
11 Lorraine Ishewwood (XYL KA2VTR)
Margaret Wiand (XYL N3WW)
12 Robert Henderson - KA3MHO
15 E. W. Haldeman - W3PST
17 Carter Craigie - KD3AO (OM KC3LM)
Dottie Trueax (XYL WF2X)
20 Robert F. Field - WA3INW
22 Winnie Miller - K3RAB
26 Bonnie Brenner - WB3GBN
27 Jack Kennedy - K3OWY (OM K3FXP)
30 William F. Chedeville - W3GQD

NEW DIRECTORY

Another PERFECT PMRC DIRECTORY...not a single correction to report...either I'm great or nobody checked. (I suspect the later!)

HELP PHIL-MONT

Are you planning to join **ARRL** or renew your current membership? Help Phil-Mont by joining or renewing through the club. Contact **KB3IV** for the details.

MAY PROGRAM SPEAKER

Our speaker for the May 1st meeting will be our own **Chris Brady, N3IEI** who's going to give a "Point to Point" video and audio demonstration. He will be using a 13 gig. microwave relay, and will also have a slide presentation. He has worked in television for 9 years, 6 of them at KYW-TV 3.

(Personally, I am looking forward to getting my hands on the \$50K "BetaCam" camcorder he'll be using.) — **N3GLH**

Continued from page 9

who are dedicated enough to the principles of Hamville to want to learn our methods. If a rabbit really wants to live here, he'll learn our ways. If he doesn't, we don't want him. You don't want those Quackers to move here, do you?" But by now the residents of Hamville had seen the writing on the wall. Although they genuinely enjoyed picking carrots with their ears, they realized that there were now other ways which yielded just as many carrots. And though they would probably continue to pick carrots by ear as they always had, they could no longer shun those bright young rabbits who chose a more modern method. A group of rabbits, led by an elder statesman rabbit named Elmer, who had once served in the government of the kingdom of Radio, asked the Ancient Royal Rabbit League to change its policy. The League agreed and issued a decree that henceforth ear harvesting skills would not be required to become a resident of Hamville.

When Digipeter Rabbit heard of the decree, he sent envoys to Hamville with all the latest scientific discoveries, which he shared freely with the residents. The residents of Hamville seized upon the new knowledge and soon Hamville became revitalized. Its population began to increase as young rabbits were attracted to its bountiful open farmland. The Field Carrot Council, impressed by the renaissance in Hamville, did not take away any more of its land, but actually gave some new territory to Hamville. Everyone was amazed at the new vibrancy of Hamville.

Charlie Whiskey, though sad that his beloved harvesting method was no longer in vogue, saw that his people were prospering and was glad. And to show that there were no hard feelings, Charlie Whiskey sent Digipeter Rabbit a packet of 73 carrots which he had picked himself — with his ears.

The residents of Hamville rejoiced and declared a festival to celebrate their new prosperity. And over the front door of the Hamville Festival they put a banner, which read: "A bunny's worth is measured not by the skill of his ears, but by what lies between them." The residents of Hamville had learned an important lesson.

-THE END-

The ARRL's TBBS



NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

CALL:	AG3H
NAME:	Lew Lewis
HANDLE:	Lew
CLASS:	Extra
ADDRESS:	631 E. Annsbury St. Philadelphia, PA 19120
HOME PHONE:	(215) 288-2780
BUSINESS PHONE:	(215) 271-0153
OCCUPATION:	Stationary Engineer
INTERESTS:	W3TKQ
CALL:	K3YUN
NAME:	Angelo Drammissi
HANDLE:	Angelo
CLASS:	General
ADDRESS:	2319 S. 9th Street Philadelphia, PA 19148
HOME PHONE:	(215) 755-9934
BUSINESS PHONE:	(215) 591-4778
OCCUPATION:	Electronics Technician
INTERESTS:	Membership; VE Program

The PREZ SEZ

Bill Popovic, N3FVI

High on the list of controversial topics discussed over the air sits the ARRL. It seems some amateurs are always looking for something to grumble about, and the ARRL is as good a topic as any.

I have often heard complaints of the ads in QST, or the league's position on the code-free license. These hams justify not renewing their membership with their disagreement of league policies. By dropping their membership they stop supporting amateur radio. The issues these amateurs are upset about are only a small part of the ARRL function. The ARRL is the only political representation amateurs have. If we are to keep the RF

spectrum we now use, and possibly gain more in the upcoming WARC conference, the league will need all the support it can get.

There is a separate ARRL fund for the WARC battle, so even if you are not a member you can contribute to a cause important to all amateurs. It was decided at the April directors' meeting, that PMRC would donate \$100 to this fund.

The next few years will be difficult times for amateur radio and the ARRL. There will be tremendous pressure from the commercial users for more spectrum space. All of Phil-Mont should support the ARRL effort with 100% membership.

THE RETURN OF FAMILY NIGHT

On June 5, 1991, the evening of our June General Meeting, Phil-Mont will celebrate the return of Family Night, wherein the entire family can see and enjoy some of the happenings of our club meetings. Here's the routine: At 7:00 PM we will have our usual social "hour," with coffee, tea, cold drinks and some pastry, along with some cross-talk that usually goes along with the social portion of the meeting. Then a short business meeting to hear a few committee reports, then an invitation to regroup at 8:00 PM in front of the **Omniverse Theater** on the second floor for our special invitation to enjoy the huge 180 degree overhead screen that will envelope your mind and put you in the center of a movie called "THE BLUE PLANET."

From that point on the screen is in control, and you are taken on a whirlwind tour of your mother earth, surrounded by the most magnificent sights and sounds possi-

ble. The scenery makes you gasp for breath on the downhill slopes, and forces you to grab your seat in order to make the next turn. I understand it's simply grandiose—what more can be said?

Now, it's important that we get your reservation before the deadline. We must tell the theater the number of seats to set aside for us, since they probably can sell all of the show daily. Our highly discounted price is only \$4.00 per person, and that's a 50% discount just for the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club! Mr. Derrick Pitts, the Vice President of the Omniverse Theater, who is also a ham, has invited us, and we're sure you're in for a special treat for everyone in your family. Listen for the Net call up on Sundays and be sure you're not one of the disappointed ones—get your reservation in early to N3FVI, N3GLH, or AK2i. It's imperative we have an accurate count. AK2i

* UPDATE *

- May 1 **General Meeting Speaker:**
Chris Brady, N3IEI
KYW-TV Cameraman
- May 2 License Examinations
- May 15 Directors' Meeting at
AK2I's
- June 5 **General Meeting**
FAMILY NIGHT
- June 6 License Examinations
- June 19 Directors' Meeting at
N3GLH's
- June 22-23 "Field Day"
- July 3 **General Meeting**
- July 11 License Examinations
- July 17 Directors' Meeting at
W3BBB's

CLUB INFORMATION

24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ
(215) 448-1139

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring their original license and one photocopy of it. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1991 test fee is \$5.25; there is no charge for a Novice test.

BELLMAWR, NJ
Monthly, 3rd Thursday
Bill Helmatag
(609) 546-7710

BRYN MAWR
Bob Haase, W3SA
(215) 293-1919

••••• **CENTER CITY PHILA.** •••••
• Monthly, 1st Thursday •
• Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q •
• (215) 482-0386 •
••••• (215) 879-0505 •••••

LEVITTOWN
Dave Munson, NM3K
(215) 788-7515

TELFORD
Monthly, 3rd Monday
Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764

WARMINSTER
Last Wed., Odd Months
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494

HAMFESTS

- May 19 **WRIGHTSTOWN, PA**
Warminster ARC
- Sept 8 **GAITHERSBURG, MD**
Foundation for Amateur Radio
- Sept 15 **PENNSAUKEN, NJ**
South Jersey RA
- Sept 21-22 **YORK, PA**
York ARA
- Oct 13 **JERSEY SHORE**
- Oct 20 **BENSALEM, PA**
Penn Wireless Assoc.

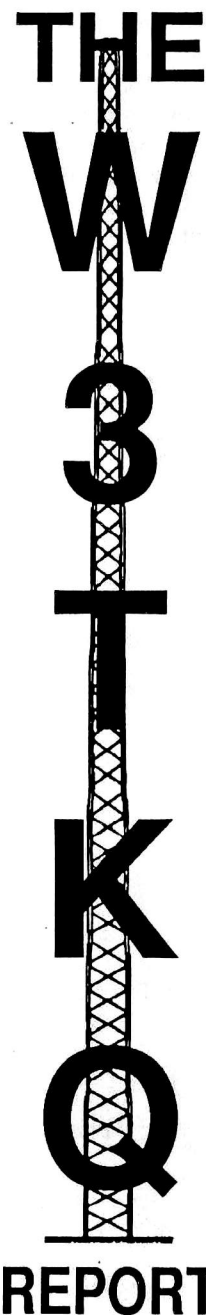
Phase 2 - A Super Reception

The second phase of the station's rebuilding fund has surely gotten off to a wonderful start. New members have shown concern and donated, and it's certainly appreciated. The fund received another fantastic boost when \$ 500 was received from Fred and Betsy Reichert, and to them, and all who thus far have donated to Phase 2, a heartfelt thank you.

An Executive Committee, made up of Mr. Don Cook, Acting President of The Franklin Institute; Mr. Eric Ayers, Executive Vice President; Mr. Derrick Pitts, Vice President of the Omniverse Theater; Mr. Henry Disston, Assistant Director of Interpretive Services, met on April 19, and reviewed the plan of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club for W3TKQ, and reaffirmed their continued interest in the perpetuation of W3TKQ as a *PERMANENT* exhibit of the Institute. The Committee... "applauds the efforts of the Club, and everyone is excited and eager for the renovations being planned, and are aware of the donations being made by club members..." and said that when completed, W3TKQ, and the Ham Radio exhibit, will be a "proud example of what determination is all about when coupled with persistence - truly a showcase that The Franklin Institute Science Museum will be proud to display for a long time to come." The bond between the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club and the Franklin Institute, begun more than thirty years ago, was again reaffirmed by all. A new Era has begun.

Attention all W3TKQ Operators

Parking Privileges in the Deck at the Institute have been reaffirmed for all operators. You will, even under Full conditions, be allowed to park in the deck. You are to follow these simple, but yet important, steps whenever you encounter a "Full" parking deck. Stop your car in front of the gate, move the plastic cone aside, get your parking ticket, **REPLACE THE CONE**, and then proceed into the deck and be parked or, double parked, whatever the case, *but you will be parked*. If anyone encounters problems, please inform the party preventing you that these are instructions received from Bobbie Dillon and Henry Disston, and that you are permitted to park. Cooperate and leave your key if required.

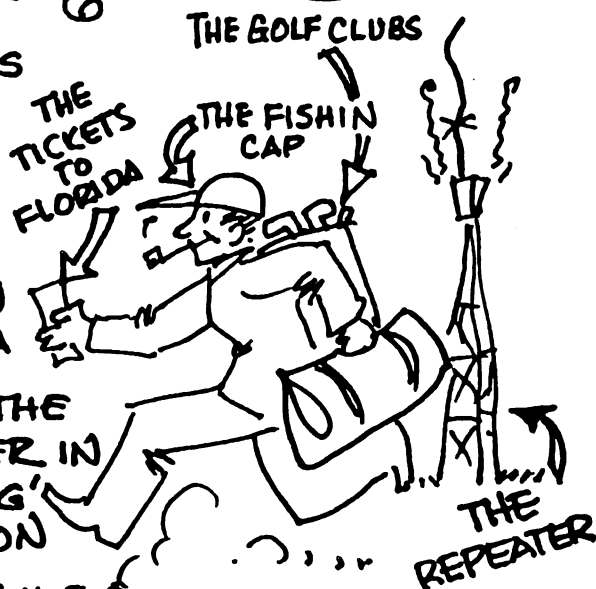


REPORT

by
Jake Kovalchek,
AK2I

**SAM'S
OTHER
CORNER**

IT SEEMS
THAT
B.B.B.
WAS IN
A HURRY
TO HIS
VACATION
IN FLORIDA
AND THAT
HE LEFT THE
REPEATER IN
AN 'AILING'
CONDITION
CONTINUED



**SAM'S
KATY
KORNER**

RICK (N3DHI) CAME TO THE RESCUE OF
THE 'AILING' REPEATER!
FOR A SMALL FEE
OF COURSE

LIKE A SPAGHETTI
DINNER...
WITH ALL THE
FIXINS!

ASK-11M, OR
11N-CHEF



MINUTES

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

N3FVI called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm on April 3, 1991 at The Franklin Institute.

KB3IV reported on the state of the Treasury which has receded from record levels. He again appealed to either renew or to become a member of ARRL through the club so it can make some money for it.

W3IIM reported that the Furlong input of the repeater will be down for 10 days or so.

W3IIN said that 14 members from last year did not renew their membership. She also said that 3 applications will be voted on at the April Board of Directors' meeting and 2 will be voted on at the May Directors' meeting.

It was reported that Jake wants to start the work at W3TKQ on April 8. The first thing to be done will to get the room painted.

KB3IV has one new Net Control Sta-

tion and says he will have new net format sheets prepared.

N3FVI has an opening for a Publicity Committee Chairperson.

24 people were at the VE examinations last month. Room 401 is where the testing session is held.

Arnie, KC2HX, has the Emergency Call Up List almost all prepared.

N3GLH introduced Kay Craigie, KC3LM, the Atlantic Division Vice Director, who talked about her function at ARRL, and about the latest things happening at ARRL Headquarters, including the ARRL preparations for the 1992 WARC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm. There were 31 in attendance, including 6 visitors.

Respectfully Submitted, Robert R. Moore, N2RM, Secretary.

AACS 50th Anniversary

The former Army Airwaves Communications System of the US Air Corps—WWII, will celebrate 50 years of foreign service in Gander, Newfoundland, with the operation of special events station VO1ACS on May 1 through 5.

Operation will be on the following times and frequencies: CW—1700Z to 1800Z on 14061 kHz or 21061 kHz; SSB—2000Z to 2300Z on 14287 kHz or 21397 kHz.

Send QSL and SASE to W6YO, 1416 7th, Delano, CA 93215.

WORLD RADIO & BRATS

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED

The Chaverim of Delaware Valley, Inc. announced its fourth annual scholarship, amounting to at least \$600, to be awarded to a licensed Jewish Amateur radio operator who desires post secondary education and who is seeking financial assistance.

Applications may be obtained from Jay Kuperman, WA3IFY, 1934 Devereaux Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19149.

Completed applications must be received no later than May 15, 1991, with the presentation to be made during the first week of June.

Penn Wireless X-MITTER

72nd MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS APRIL

31 candidates pass 48 elements
11 new amateurs plus 10 upgrades

Thanks to the members of our VE team:
ND3Q, Dusty Rhoads, Chairman
W3FZR, Niel Leone; N3IEI, Chris Brady; K3SNZ, Vince Braxton;
NZ3Q, Ted Lada; W3UY, Larry Clifford

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST
NON-HOLIDAY **THURSDAY** OF EVERY MONTH

Registration begins at 6:00 PM

Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

For Information Call ND3Q at

(215) 482-0386 or 879-0505

Accessible by the handicapped.



**SOME
CORNER**

WHO WAS LATELY
VISITED BY
THE FCC?

ONLY TO
HAVE A
LOOK
AT HIS SHACK!



"DIDN'T BOTHER ME ONE BIT."

up - a tremendous force rocketed the chair into a high-G position. Having done this the rocket motor went into "overtime." While resting the old man hadn't noticed that a robot rocket had fitted itself to the bottom of his chair. While trying to start the scream he wanted to start so badly he felt the motor shut down; his blurred vision cleared; he screamed, realizing that at any moment he would be spattered onto the ceiling.

The following high speed but delicate maneuvers are hard to describe. The motor came back to life, flipping the chair upside down and then righted itself to fly him gently over to a walkway.

There he was, 2000 feet up on a gold walkway.

No guides. No one in sight. He caught his breath and tried his now-shaky legs. Getting out of that crazy chair seemed to be a good idea. As he walked away the rocket pack disengaged itself from the chair, hovered over the edge, shut down and silently fell, committing suicide, he hoped, but a few minutes later he heard the motor spring back to life to do some other duty.

As he walked he realized he saw no doorways. "One will open when I get where I'm going, I guess," he thought. Sure enough, one did.

He had to jump out of the way. A stream of people came out in single file, opened a gate in the fence and simply stepped off the edge. No screams, no fear - they just walked off! Horrified, he looked over the edge. As each person fell a robot rocket flew out, slowed each one and landed each person at whatever level they wanted to stop.

Someone tapped him on the shoulder; he almost jumped out of his skin. He turned

to see a kind face surrounded by an incredible amount of hair, "Come on in and we'll talk." Seemed nice enough. They walked into the room. It just didn't make sense - it looked like some kind of ancient municipal meeting room. Microphones with wires, big coffee pot, doughnuts and many plastic chairs. A sign-in book flew over to him on its own robot rocket (some mischievous programmer had given a book a Jewish accent).

As they walked into the room it melted and reformed itself into a small room filled with old equipment, moldy paper and a fire extinguisher. What the hell? How did you do that?"

The man with the hair just smiled and said, "we programmed this room to shape itself to the likes of its guests. This is probably your favorite place."

Yup, but I burned it down years ago."

"I guess that's why the corners are fuzzy. You can't remember them."

"Look, all I want to know is how you managed to get a club station to be so technically advanced, so huge,

so capable of supporting itself independent of the world, employ half of the planet, have the biggest antenna array known to man... how in the Hell did you do all this?" Exasperated, he sat down in his old squeaky chair and synthetic dust flew into the air.

"Quite simple, really. We worked and worked and got nowhere for a long time. Then the I.R.S. suggested we worship Mr. Morse as a god. We took a few free tax-deductible contributions and made a few investments, and that was that."

"Too simple," said the old man.

Penn Wireless X-MITTER

FROM HAM TO HELL

David Munson, NM3K

As the ancient decrepit ham surveyed the massive crystal structure his guide led him from the superstretch limo that had ferried him from "that other club." He couldn't believe his eyes. A huge skyscraper seemingly made of glass. Almost but not quite clear, almost reflective but not quite. One feature that could not be missed was the antenna arrays. The building could fool the eye, but not the arrays, 2000 feet up, almost blocking the sun. Incredible, to say the least.

"Just how did you manage to build such a great station?"

His guide merely smiled and said, "he" will explain all." The old man quivered on hearing the smooth yet spiked tone of his guide.

It was then he noticed the young ham's call badge beneath the flowing white robes: a small LED display flickering a callsign and code speed.

When they stepped into the foyer a warm shower of water fell gently onto the old man and two obedient women began to strip and bathe him, removing tobacco, personal odor and a pair of biologically-attached pair of sneakers (later carbon-14 dated to the 1980s). Once he was dried and clothed in clean fresh cloth they walked to a chrome-plated door to wait. . .

Suddenly he woke with a start.

"What the...? Who in the...? What is...? For an old communicator he wasn't doing too well.

The door split where it had shown no seams before. The noise was deafening; the sight made the old man fold to the floor. As

far as could be seen up, down, right, left, everywhere rigs of every size and shape. Homebrew, Russian, Japanese, and even antiques. The old fellow swears to this day that he even spotted a Ten-Tec OMNI D.

The level they entered was clear. Both paused before entering. "Takes getting used to, Come along. It won't break." Strange sensation, much like getting into a plane, climbing to 40,000 feet and then stepping out onto a piece of glass.

It seemed they had walked for a long time and got nowhere. The interior was so immense that the short hike from the front door was like a trip across America. (The true measurements were 40,000 feet down, 2000 feet up and 5 miles square.) If only the Egyptians could see this.

"All right, let's take a break. The guide bent over and tapped the floor, "dah di dah dit dit dit dit dit..."

"This guy's lost it," thought the old man, as the guide finished tapping "chair" in C.W. on the floor.

Then the floor did the same trick that the chrome door had done, only different. It split in different directions, rising to form two of the most beautiful glass chairs he had ever seen. Happy with the opportunity he gingerly sat down and instantly fell asleep. "OK."

"What?"

"Time for you to meet the President."

At that the guide tapped "UP" on the old man's chair. He tried to rise but wasn't fast enough... instead of neatly folding back into the floor the chair did the unexpected: Where the chair met the floor a seam opened

The Year is 1941 — RADIO MOVIN' DAY

Paul Bohlander, W3VVS

Not many readers will remember "Radio Movin' Day", unless they are at least age 50 or older. On March 29, 1941, at 2 AM, most of the broadcast stations in the United States changed assigned channel frequencies, beginning with 730 kcs and above. A 3-year study conducted by various Governments resulted in a plan to reallocate broadcast channels in such a manner as to provide better overall program reception in the United States as well as in all other countries involved (Canada, Cuba, Mexico, and Haiti). The agreement between governments divided the available channel frequencies in such a manner as to produce a minimum amount of interference to each station. In order to provide a sufficient number of channel frequencies, it was necessary to extend the upper limit of the broadcast band to 1600 kcs. The standard amplitude-modulation broadcasting band at the time was 540 to 1500 kcs and,

with the broadcast band extended to 1600 kcs, additional channels were made available. (Band limits today are 535 to 1605 mHz.)

"Radio Movin' Day" saw 795 out of 833 broadcast stations change to a new spot on the dial, and the owners of over 50 million radio sets settled down to search and locate their favorite stations. Approximately 10 million push-button radios in use in the United States at the time required the push-buttons to be reset for the favorite local stations in the set owner's listening area. Most of the resetting of push buttons was accomplished by 20,000 full-time radio service men throughout the country, which meant that approximately 500 sets per service man were available to be reset! After reallocation of broadcast station frequencies on, March 29, 1941, radio reception throughout the country was reported to be much improved.

ELAINE SAID THEY HAVE TO GO!

Bearcat 250, programmable scanner	\$90.00
Kenwood TR 7850, 50 watt 2 mtr mobile	150.00
Standard SRC 146 HT, 2 mtr 6 channel with tone pad	75.00
Standard SRC 146 HT, 2 mtr 6 channel	60.00
Standard C30L30, commercial 3 channel HT	150.00
Bearcat BC 580 XLT, programmable scanner	150.00
Bearcat BC 600 XLT, programmable scanner	175.00
Regency ACT-R10 H-L-U, 10 channel scanner	50.00
Regency ACT-R10 H-L-U, 10 channel scanner	50.00
Regency TMR-8-H, 8 channel scanner	40.00
Regency TMR-8-H-L, 8 channel scanner	50.00
Bearcat IV, 8 channel scanner	40.00
Regency ACT-4, 4 channel scanner	20.00
Regency HX-1000, programmable 100 chan scanner, hand held ..	90.00
Robyn 3000, 16 channel scanner	50.00

Jim Spencer, W3BBB, 362-5172 or 147.03 Rptr.

THE STORY OF DIGIPETER RABBIT — A NO CODE FABLE

By Frank Terranella, N2IGO

Once upon a time, in the far-away kingdom of Radio, there was a peaceful valley called Hamville, inhabited by a group of rabbits. Hamville was originally settled by the Whiskey family, and the patriarch of that family was an old hare called Charlie Whiskey.

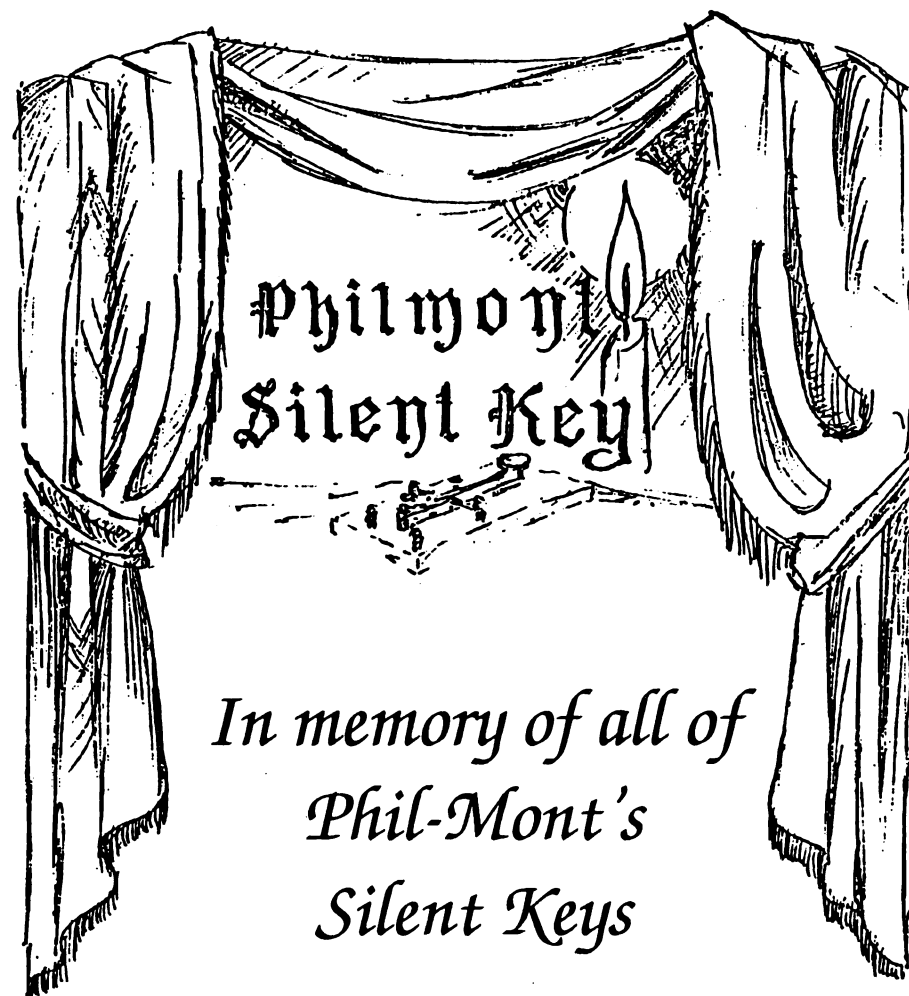
Charlie Whiskey was a farmer by trade. He came to the beautiful valley of Hamville when it was all open meadows. He saw the potential for farming the vacant land and over time he developed a thriving carrot plantation. Charlie Whiskey's carrot plantation was the envy of all the inhabitants of the kingdom of Radio. He succeeded year after year in producing a bumper crop of carrots. All the other residents of the kingdom came to Charlie for advice on planting carrots. Charlie would always tell them, "The secret's in developing a good ear." No, Charlie didn't have superior hearing, but he had developed a very special skill. You see, Charlie picked his carrots with his ears.

In fact, Charlie had worked hard at perfecting this skill and was able to harvest at better than 20 carrots a minute. All of Charlie's family learned to pick carrots with their ears. Soon they were all picking at better than 20 carrots a minute. Charlie was so proud of his special skill that he insisted that everyone who came to work at Hamville first show that he could pick carrots with his ears. Charlie would not give new settlers any land unless they could demonstrate to his foreman, Victor Echo, that they could pick at least 5 carrots a minute with their ears. When they could pick 13 carrots a minute, Charlie gave them more land to work. When they were able to pick carrots by ear at the rate of 20 a minute,

Charlie made them full citizens of Hamville.

This process of learning to pick carrots with your ears went on for some time. In other parts of the kingdom of Radio, other rabbits began to pick carrots by ear. However, there were some noisy ducks, known as the Quackers, who lived in the community of Good Buddy. They used their mouths to pick their crops instead of their ears. They had much larger mouths than the rabbits and saw no need to use their ears. The rabbits all looked down on the Quackers. "We must always require ear harvesting skills for entry into Hamville," they said. "That way we will keep out those noisy Quackers." So everyone who came to Hamville had to learn how to pick carrots by ear if they wanted to stay. Charlie Whiskey was adamant about that. "If you don't want to learn the skill of ear harvesting, then go work in Good Buddy with the Quackers," he would say.

And so the years passed, and new methods of farming were developed. These new methods were easier to learn than ear harvesting, especially for the animals who didn't have the big ears that the rabbits had. What's more, the new methods were just as efficient as ear harvesting. As time went by, fewer and fewer of the young animals were willing to learn the skill of ear harvesting. The population of Hamville began to dwindle. All the residents of Hamville were getting on in years. To make matters worse, there were new neighbors nearby who coveted the beautiful open farmland of Hamville. They wanted to come in and turn it into commercial uses like shopping centers. And worst of all, the pollution from the Quackers, the other Rabbits, and the Mice (known in Hamville as the QRM group) was having an adverse effect on



*In memory of all of
Phil-Mont's
Silent Keys*

Thanks to Charlie, W3ZPP for the idea for this Memorial Day remembrance.

MORSE CODE RULE ENDS; HAM RADIO POISED TO DASH AHEAD

Story and photo by G. Chambers Williams III

Ham radio is poised for a boom. In fact, it might be on the verge of taking off the way citizens band radio did in the '70s, as the FCC institutes rules eliminating the Morse code requirement for one class of amateur license. After the 55 mph speed limit was passed in 1974, CB radio—which is different from ham—took the nation by storm as truckers and other motorists used the radios to help avoid speed traps. Ham radio isn't used for that, but it does give motorists a much better way of communicating from their cars than with CB. Through the use of small, hand-held radios, and under-dash mobile units, ham radio enthusiasts—or "hams"—can talk to, and even make telephone calls, from almost anywhere.

The range of these radios is 50 miles or more, thanks to mountaintop repeaters that pick up the weak signals from the car radios, and rebroadcast them from powerful fixed radios at high elevations. CB radios typically have a car-to-car range of three miles or less. Unlike CB operators, however, hams must be licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. This has meant passing a written test, and a Morse code test. The Morse code test has been dropped for beginners, and the FCC is bracing for a massive expansion of the ham ranks. There are fewer than 500,000 ham radio operators in the United States. Japan, which has had a no-code license for several years, has more than 1 million.

Proponents of the no-code license in the United States are hoping the ham ranks will expand rapidly, so that waning interest in the hobby will be rekindled, and the amateur-radio portions of the radio spectrum will continue to be available to hams. But opponents say the elimination of the code requirement will bring people into ham radio who aren't serious about the hobby, and who will burden the air-waves.

They also fear that what happened to the citizens band will happen to the ham bands. The FCC gave up trying to regulate the use of CB radios about 10 years ago because there were millions of users, and most of them were ignoring rules and regulations. Now, anarchy rules the CB channels, and they have become virtually useless. Howard Phillips, sales representative for Ham Radio Outlet in Anaheim, said he believes the no-code license is "going to be good for amateur radio. Lots of new people are going to be coming into the hobby." Phillips, who has been a ham for 17 years, said he welcomes the no-code license, but he acknowledges that there is dissension. "A lot of hams are saying, 'I sweated the code to get my license, so new hams should have to also,'" he said. "But I don't feel that way." Pete Kreager of La Habra Heights, a ham for 45 years, is a vocal opponent to the new license. "I don't think much of it," he said. "It's not that hard to learn the code, and all hams ought to know it." Proponents, however, contend that the Morse code requirement is outdated, because most hams never use Morse code again after learning it for their licenses. No-code licensees are limited to ham-radio bands above 30 megahertz. They must pass a Morse code test if they want to operate below that frequency on the world-wide ham shortwave bands. To get the new no-code Technician license, applicants still must pass a 55-question test which combines the 30-question Novice-class written test with the 25-question Technician-class upgrade test. The Novice class remains unchanged, which allows newcomers to enter the hobby by passing a 30-question written test, and a five-words-per-minute Morse code test. Ham radio clubs throughout the county offer classes and tests regularly.

The Orange County Register (California) via N3AXJ

farming in Hamville. The future looked bleak indeed.

Then, one day, a stranger called Digipeter Rabbit came to Hamville. He was an educated rabbit who had studied at the School for Scientific Bunnies (SSB). He had majored in Farm Mechanics and knew all of the latest scientific agricultural methods. But for all his education and know-how, there was one thing that Digipeter could not do. He could not master the skill of picking carrots with his ears. And since he already knew how to pick carrots more efficiently with new scientific methods, he was not interested in learning.

Charlie Whiskey was outraged. "What do you mean you won't learn to pick carrots with your ears? Why, we in Hamville have been picking carrots that way for 75 years. It's a tradition here. It shows that we're special and that we're better than the Quackers. If you don't have the desire to develop a good ear, then we don't want you here in Hamville."

But Digipeter was adamant. He saw no reason to learn an obsolete skill just to stay in Hamville and he refused to even try. Charlie Whiskey took the matter to the Ancient Royal Rabbit League, which he had founded. The ARRL decreed that everyone in Hamville must learn to pick carrots with his ears or be banished. And so Digipeter Rabbit left Hamville and founded his own village called Techietown.

Soon, all the young animals in the land of Radio were flocking to Techietown. But Digipeter had his own entrance requirement. A good ear and a good memory were not enough for him. No one could stay in Techietown unless he could demonstrate technical knowledge, understanding and ability, and the desire to contribute to the advancement of Techietown.

Digipeter encouraged all the residents of Techietown to experiment in the cultivation of new unexplored lands, never before

farmed. Digipeter showed them how to overcome pollution problems. He showed them how to use the land they had more efficiently. Digipeter even perfected a method of farming which allowed a number of rabbits to farm the same land at the same time. And while the residents of Hamville were picking 30 carrots a minute on a good day, in Techietown, harvests of 300 carrots a minute were possible. Using Digipeter's methods, and those developed by the other bright, young residents, Techietown soon became the most prosperous village in the kingdom of Radio. This did not escape the notice of the Field Carrot Council, which governed the kingdom of radio. To reward the residents of Techietown for their contributions to the kingdom, the Field Carrot Council gave Techietown more and more land to work, until its borders touched those of Hamville.

Meanwhile, Hamville was still plodding along as it always had, oblivious to the revolution in farming occurring around it. The old hares still picked carrots by ear. The Ancient Royal Rabbit League complained bitterly to the Field Carrot Council about all the new land it was giving to Techietown, but the population of Hamville continued to drop. When the Field Carrot Council gave 2 acres of Hamville property to Techietown, the residents of Hamville began, for the first time, to be genuinely concerned about their plight. Some even dared to ask the Ancient Royal Rabbit

League to change its mind about the need to learn to pick carrots by ear to live in Hamville. "We need new blood here to fight off the Field Carrot Council," they said. Charlie Whiskey, now in his nineties, was furious. "We have to maintain our standards. We don't need those smart young bunnies, we need rabbits skilled in our time-honored harvesting techniques. We need rabbits

Continued on page 22

Students Across U.S. Talk With Astronauts

By Pete Stavros, Associated Press

Students in several states welcomed a little extracurricular work yesterday, especially since their teachers were 280 miles above them, circling the Earth in the space shuttle Atlantis.

In radio experiments, at sites from a museum in Illinois to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, students learned how to eat chicken soup in space, and were encouraged to study hard if they someday wanted to be astronauts.

"Take school seriously," Steven Nagel, the mission's commander, told Steven White of Ferguson Elementary School in Houston.

"Worry about your grades right now no matter how young you are," he said. "Study hard and get good grades, go to college, study science or engineering, then get into the space program after that."

All five Atlantis astronauts became licensed amateur radio operators for the space experiment that was part of SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment.

The astronauts planned to contact youngsters from nine sites in seven states yesterday, with children listening in at about 20 other schools.

Teacher, and ham radio enthusiast, Larry Calbert learned of the opportunity to talk to the shuttle a year ago from an ad in QST, the magazine of the American Radio Relay League, a national ham radio organization.

"I heard about a couple months ago that we had been accepted," said Calbert, an industrial arts teacher at Monroe Central School in Parker City, Ind.

"I don't know how they chose us, maybe through a lottery, or maybe, they just wanted a small school from Indiana." Monroe Central has about 600 students in grades seven through 12.

Yesterday's exchange had three students huddled around a telephone while Calbert moved between the group and a ham radio setup in another room.

The conversation was garbled with static, with statements having to be repeated several times along the ham radio network strung across the country to follow the shuttle's path overhead.

The students had fewer than 20 minutes to

communicate with the shuttle before it went beyond the range of the network.

In Houston, where students were given questions to memorize, some of the inquiries were challenging.

"Do you tend to reevaluate your life when you look at the Earth?" asked Joey Kramer of Bay Elementary School.

"When you float up here above the Earth in a little spacecraft, and look down at the big spacecraft that we all fly on, it makes us all think about what our priorities are," shuttle pilot Ken Cameron replied.

Elsewhere, students asked questions of more immediate personal interest.

At the Discovery Center Museum in Rockford, Ill., Adam Karol, 11, asked: "How hard is it eating up there?"

Chris Folz, 9, was a little nervous in asking about the sensation at liftoff. But he got an enthusiastic one-word answer from pilot Kenneth Cameron: "Wow!"

Cameron went on to say, "your body feels like it is being squashed." In Lawton, Okla., Steven Soby, 7, of St. Mary's Elementary School, wanted to know whether the astronauts could see his home state.

"Stand by, I'll get to a window," replied Cameron. He couldn't see Oklahoma because the space shuttle was orbiting too far north, he explained.

Danny Adams, an 8-year-old student at Oklahoma City's Crosby Park school, asked if the astronauts were allowed to keep pets in space. Mice only, he was told.

The toughest part of the experiment was a scarcity of time for the astronauts to talk to all the students that had prepared for their big day.

Dawn Halferty, a fourth-grader from White Elementary School in a Houston suburb, was poised to ask the 11th question when ham radio operators working out of Mission Control at the Johnson Space Center began to sign off, thanking the astronauts and crew for setting up the experiment.

Tears welled in her eyes as she realized she would not get in the last question.

Honolulu Sunday Star-Bulletin & Advertiser

involved in the national legislature, the military establishment and the technical news media will help us in that effort. In this way we stand to gain a strong ally with those involved in the business of national education, and we strengthen our chances for more direct dialogue with the Commissioners in the future. The focal point on education is a viable point and, with dedicated effort to reach the Commission, we can succeed.

As for education itself, some currently find it fashionable to evoke the elementary school system as a source of new amateurs. Equally important, as I see it, is a technical program that ensures all youngsters will have a solid understanding of basic communications fundamentals. Yet, at a time when the country pleads for increased numbers into science and technical vocation, there are some who seek to simplify entry into a hobby that was designed as a technical learning ground. Indeed, a no-code, no-theory license was proposed to the FCC this year. Given present trends, I believe it will be proposed again, and soon. It appears to me that the fundamental connecting link between amateurs of all ages and vocations, i.e., a bona fide interest in understanding the basics of communications, is eroding rapidly.

For several years educators around the country have taken a first step in exposing youngsters to ham radio. Now it would seem appropriate as a national policy to move to the next step in providing youth with a solid understanding of what's happening at the ground level in science.

Presently, it's not unusual to encounter beginning amateurs, from Novice to Extra, lacking knowledge of fundamentals such as Ohm's Law.

It's clear to me that existing FCC exams do not place a high priority on would-be ama-

teurs to understand basics. "What is capacitance?", for example, seems a far superior question to "what are the units of capacitance?" In my view, a resurrection of a strong technical foundation is needed, and educational task forces alone are not the answer if their goal is simply to prepare newcomers for existing amateur exams.

If amateur radio is dying, it has, as I see it, little to do with a Morse Code requirement or the number of amateurs.

We should rather be provided the opportunity to reevaluate whether the present exam-by-rote structure is in the best interests of amateur radio; and to ask if relaxed standards might be causing us to ultimately fail in justifying our existence across the board as a technical hobby. Not very consoling words, but if there is a hobby that demands honesty in facing root causes of its problems, it is amateur radio. Failure to establish a challenging environment for youth while maintaining our unique status as a technical learning ground is certain to weaken any remaining leverage we may have with the FCC in the future. Indeed, the principles of incentive licensing are as valid now as they were 25 years ago.

Note: This material prepared by Vincent, WB2EZG (QCWA 22849), it accents the need to channel amateur radio into a solid alliance with educational goals and entities. His comments have been edited to conserve space. Vincent has a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master's Degree in Meteorology. He is Managing Editor of the IEEE Magazine Division.

QCWA Journal via W3RM

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

Vincent Blancomano, WB2EZG
General Delivery
Schooley's Mountain, NJ 07870

Flexibility to change with the times is one aspect of amateur radio that most of us can handle. How to accommodate changing times is another matter entirely. The message received from many amateurs is clear: an apparent majority do not support the degree or rate of deregulation in amateur licensing that we have witnessed in the past few years. On one hand, the FCC's rhetorical preamble to their no-code proposal states that amateur radio is a technical hobby. The reality suggests, however, that the Commission's idea of "technical" is not the same as it was 25 years ago.

The Commissioners of the FCC, absorbed in commercial and marketing issues, simply do not appear truly knowledgeable of the purpose or history of amateur radio; recent rules changes have been delivered by their advisory branches. Thus, I believe, the major problem faced today is finding a means by which amateur radio can regain the high regard of the FCC Commissioners themselves as a hobby worthy of their direct concern. In this regard, our mission as a technical learning ground comes to mind, and as implied in Part 97.1 it is a mission that would seem quite apart from instructing newcomers on how to use black-box appliances. But, Amateur Radio does not appear to be a high priority to the powers that be, so we must reach our goals via a vehicle that is important to the country. In that context, and given the proper conditions, amateur radio can serve to provide a strong foundation for the education of young people. Thus, the goal is to receive the approval of an FCC that recognizes amateur radio as a worthy tool in

the national effort to attract youth to fundamental technology and the sciences. With a changing amateur radio, comes an immediate demand for clear head work involving the means by which we can survive as a service without compromising our traditions, integrity or reason for being. Actions based on a careful determination of facts and a scientific approach to the problems of our hobby stand the best chance of success. Actions based on emotions or misinformation may result in hit or miss solutions as I believe to have frequently been the case in recent years. Evident from the no-code debate, for example, is a belief we must play the "numbers game" with the Commission.

Actually, there are more amateurs today, and more amateurs per capita, than in any previous decade.

Our real problem is attracting young people to carry on our traditions.

Recent annual sales of amateur equipment totalled approximately 150 million dollars, compared with commercial equipment sales of 26,000 million dollars. Those following economic activities understand that the amateur market will (barring a personal radio service) always be significantly smaller than that of commercial interests which compete for our frequencies. Attempts to convince the FCC of our growing numbers in that context will, in my view, fail. We cannot compete at that level. Given this condition, it would seem apparent that education, not deregulation, is in the best interests of both the country and our service, and we must, with haste, impart this message directly to the FCC Commissioners. Enlisting various outside agencies to bring their persuasive power to the fore, such as those

Martin D. Shapiro, WA3IFQ

April 4, 1991



I find it difficult to sit at my desk and write words about our fellow ham and wonderful friend, Marty. In fact really to say all that could be written would take a volume the size of "War and Peace." Marty was a man that loved life and loved people. Anyone who needed a favor had only to ask, and if at all possible, Marty would oblige. Sometimes if moral support was necessary, Marty was at your side to render it, and make you feel good.

The first time I met Marty was about twenty five years ago. We were both standing at the counter in Lafayette Radio in Oak Lane, waiting to be served. We started to talk, and Marty explained his wife Lillian broke her leg, and he wanted something to use in his car, and at home, to keep in touch with her while he drove about the city.

Being an ardent C.B.er at the time, I recommended citizen band radios, and

invited him to my car for a demonstration of my mobile rig. This was the start of a long and true friendship.

Two years later we decided to trash C.B. and get our amateur radio tickets. We signed up for the course the Franklin Institute was offering, and for months studied our code and theory together. Finally, the day came, down we went to the F.C.C. and passed the exams for our license. Thus WA3IFP and WA3IFQ became practically inseparable.

As we travel through life, meeting people, some of whom we call, "our friends," it happens seldom that we meet someone we can classify as "one of our best friends." To me, Marty was one of mine.

We find it hard to face the passing of a true friend. We mourn and we feel sadness. Is it only the person we lose and his family we feel sorrow for, or is it not ourselves, who will no longer, and for the rest of our own lives, have a void without OUR BEST FRIEND?

Rest well Marty, and thanks for being able to call you, MY BEST FRIEND.

We will all miss him.

... .. Irv. Roseman WA3IFP

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 GENERAL MEETING at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 PM Meeting starts at 7:30	2 LICENSE EXAMS at The Franklin Institute Registration begins at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 PM <i>sharp!</i>		
5 2M NCS AK2I 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3PWG	6	7 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM AK2I	8 <i>V.E. Day 1945</i>	9 <i>H.S. Truman 1884</i>	10	11
12 2M NCS N3FTY 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3AOA <i>Mothers' Day</i>	13	14 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM <i>Statehood of Israel 1948</i>	15 DIRECTORS' MEETING at AK2I's	16	17	18 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
19 2M NCS K3JJO 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3RCE <i>Wrightstown Hamfest</i>	20	21 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM N3ALW <i>Lindberg's Flight 1927</i>	22	23	24	25
26 2M NCS NS3Y 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS AK2I	27  <i>Memorial Day</i>	28 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM	29 <i>J.F. Kennedy 1917</i>	30	31	<i>When we are flat on our back we can always look up and check the antenna.</i>